

Part II—Court of Appeals.

SEC. 14. The Court of Appeals shall be composed of the Chief Judges of the first seven of the several judicial circuits of the State and a judge from the city of Baltimore specially elected thereto, one of whom shall be designated by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, as the Chief Judge; and in all cases until action by the Senate can be had, the judge so designated by the Governor shall act as Chief Judge. The Judge of the Court of Appeals from the city of Baltimore shall be elected by the qualified voters of said city at the election of judges to be held therein, as hereinbefore provided; and in addition to his duties as Judge of the Court of Appeals, shall perform such other duties as the General Assembly shall prescribe. The jurisdiction of said Court of Appeals shall be co-extensive with the limits of the State, and such as now is or may hereafter be prescribed by law. It shall hold its sessions in the city of Annapolis, on the first Monday in April, and the first Monday in October; [on the second Monday in January, the first Monday in April and the first Monday in October]* of each and every year, or at such other times as the General Assembly may by law direct. Its sessions shall continue not less than ten months in the year, if the business before it shall so require; and it shall be competent for the judges temporarily to transfer their sittings elsewhere upon sufficient cause.

SEC. 15. Four of said judges shall constitute a quorum; no cause shall be decided without the concurrence of at least three; but the judge who heard the cause below shall not participate in the decision; in every case an opinion, in writing, shall be filed within three months after the argument or submission of the cause; and the judgment of the court shall be final and conclusive; and all cases shall stand for hearing at the first term after the transmission of the record.

SEC. 16. Provision shall be made by law for publishing reports of all causes argued and determined in the Court of Appeals, which the judges shall designate as proper for publication.

SEC. 17. There shall be a Clerk of the Court of Appeals, who shall be elected by the legal and qualified voters of the State, who shall hold his office for six years, and until his successor is duly qualified;¹ he shall be subject to removal by the said court for incompetency, neglect of duty, misdemeanor in office, or such other cause or causes as may be prescribed by law; and in case of a vacancy in the office of said clerk, the Court of Appeals shall appoint a clerk of said

* Terms thus arranged by Act of 1886, Chapter 185.

¹Amended by Article XVII, Section 1.